

# Burlington Northern Fueling Facility - Whitefish

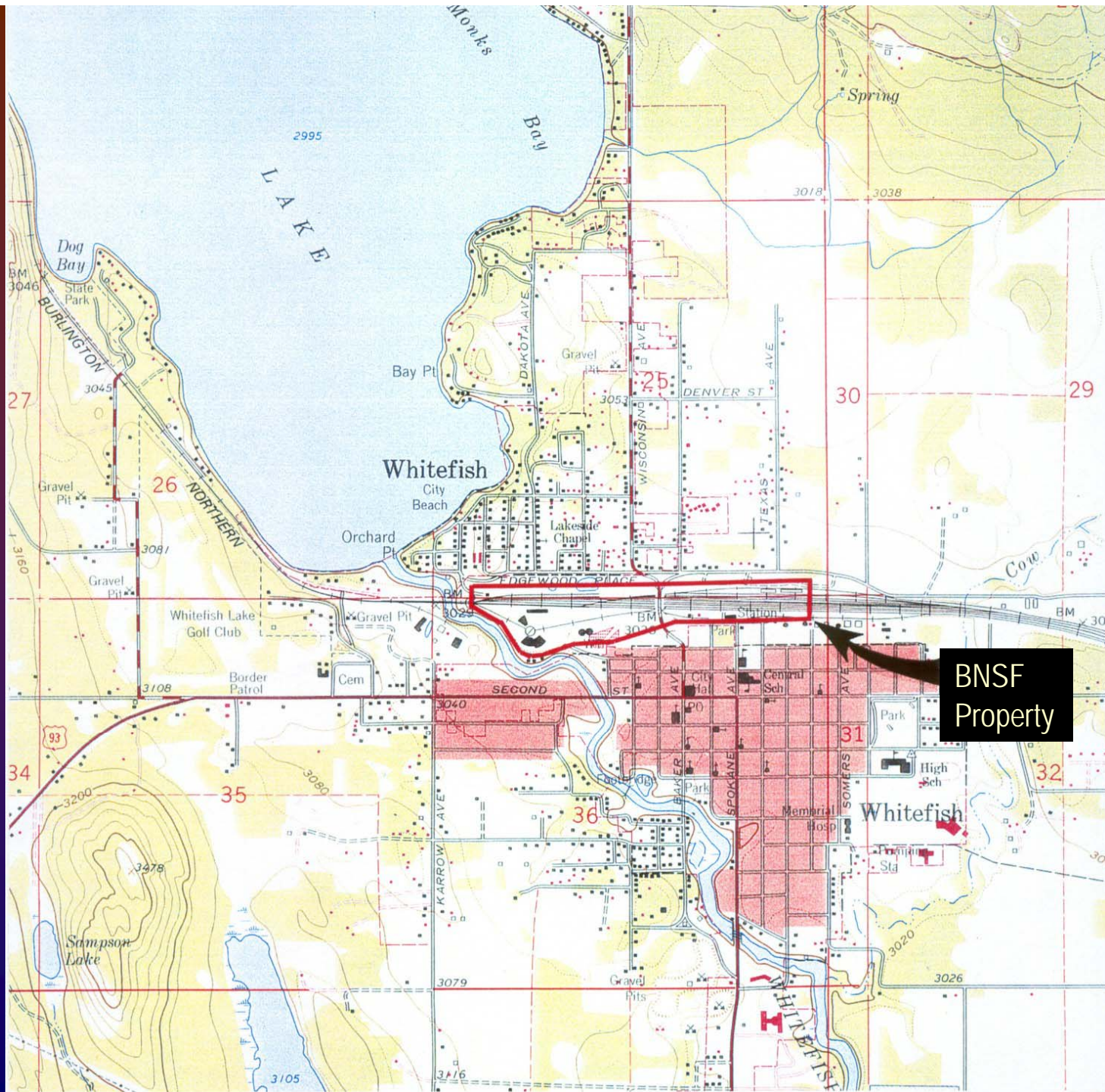
**March 21, 2006**

**6:30pm**

**City Council Chambers**

# Meeting Outline

- History
- Facility Boundaries
- Contamination
- What is next?
- Questions



# History

- Railroad began operating in 1890's
- Roundhouse and other shop buildings constructed in 1903 and 1904
- 1904 – 1958 Locomotive maintenance and repairs were conducted at these shops
- Up to the 1930s, coal, wood and heavy bunker “C” fuel oil were used to fuel the locomotives
- Beginning in 1940s, diesel used to fuel locomotives
  - Freight locomotive fueling area
  - East passenger fueling area
  - West passenger fueling area
- 1958 – major repair activities transferred to other BN facilities

# History, cont.

- 1960s – three lagoons installed to treat oily wastewater
- 1973 – Interceptor trench installed
- 1980 - East and West Passenger fueling areas closed due to decrease in passenger rail service; freight locomotive fueling area still in operation
- 1981 – majority of roundhouse shops removed, only minor maintenance currently performed
- 1998 – lagoons upgraded / liner installed





# Contamination

- Soil – Surface and Subsurface
  - Diesel contamination
- Groundwater
  - Diesel contamination
  - Volatile organic compounds
- River Sediment
  - Diesel contamination

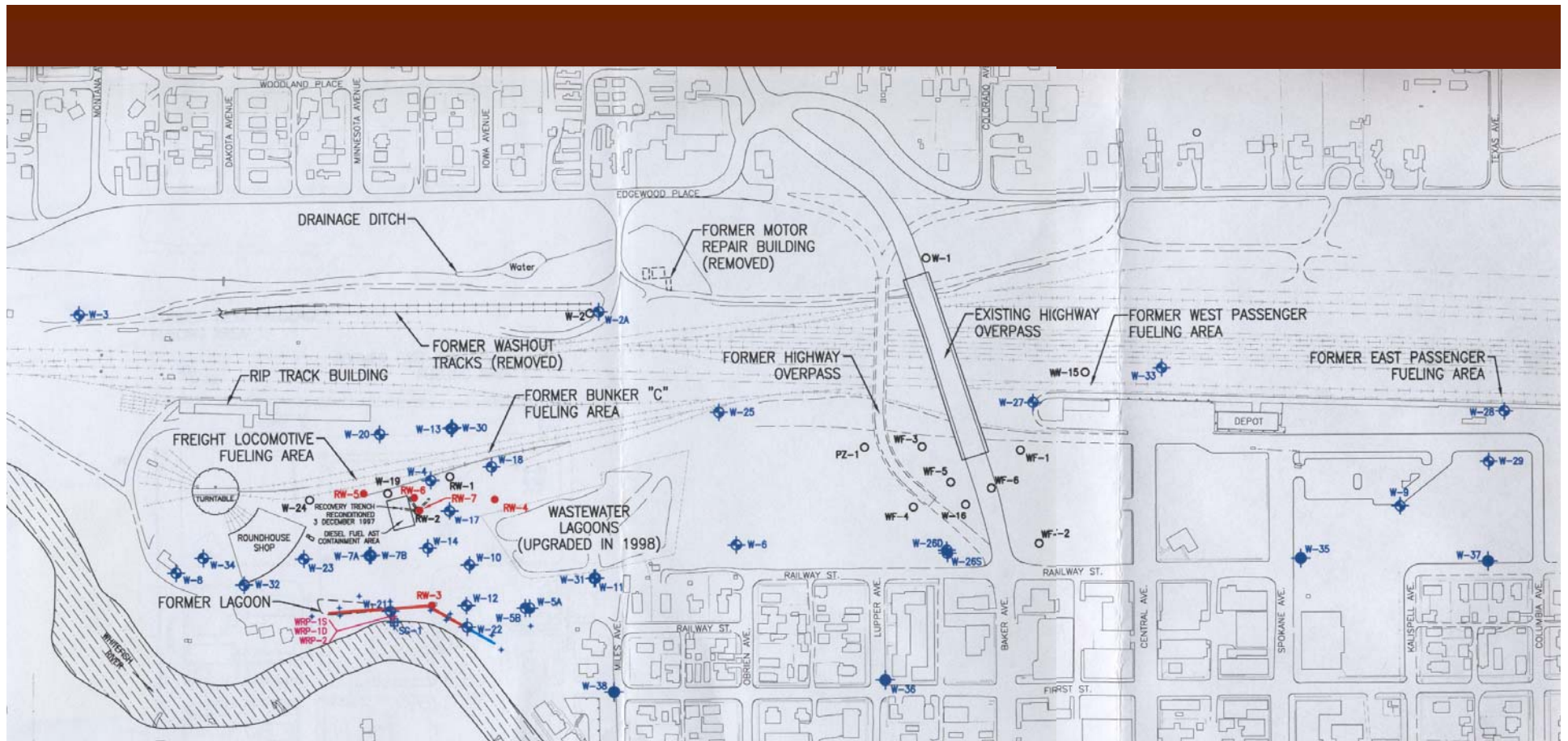
# Soil Investigations

- Many soil investigations – conducted by BNSF, Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) and third party investigations
- Looked for diesel, gasoline, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), metals, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
- Diesel and PAHs main contaminants of concern in soil throughout the facility
- Metals in soil - contaminant of concern west of roundhouse from wheel joint bearings



# Interim Soil Cleanup

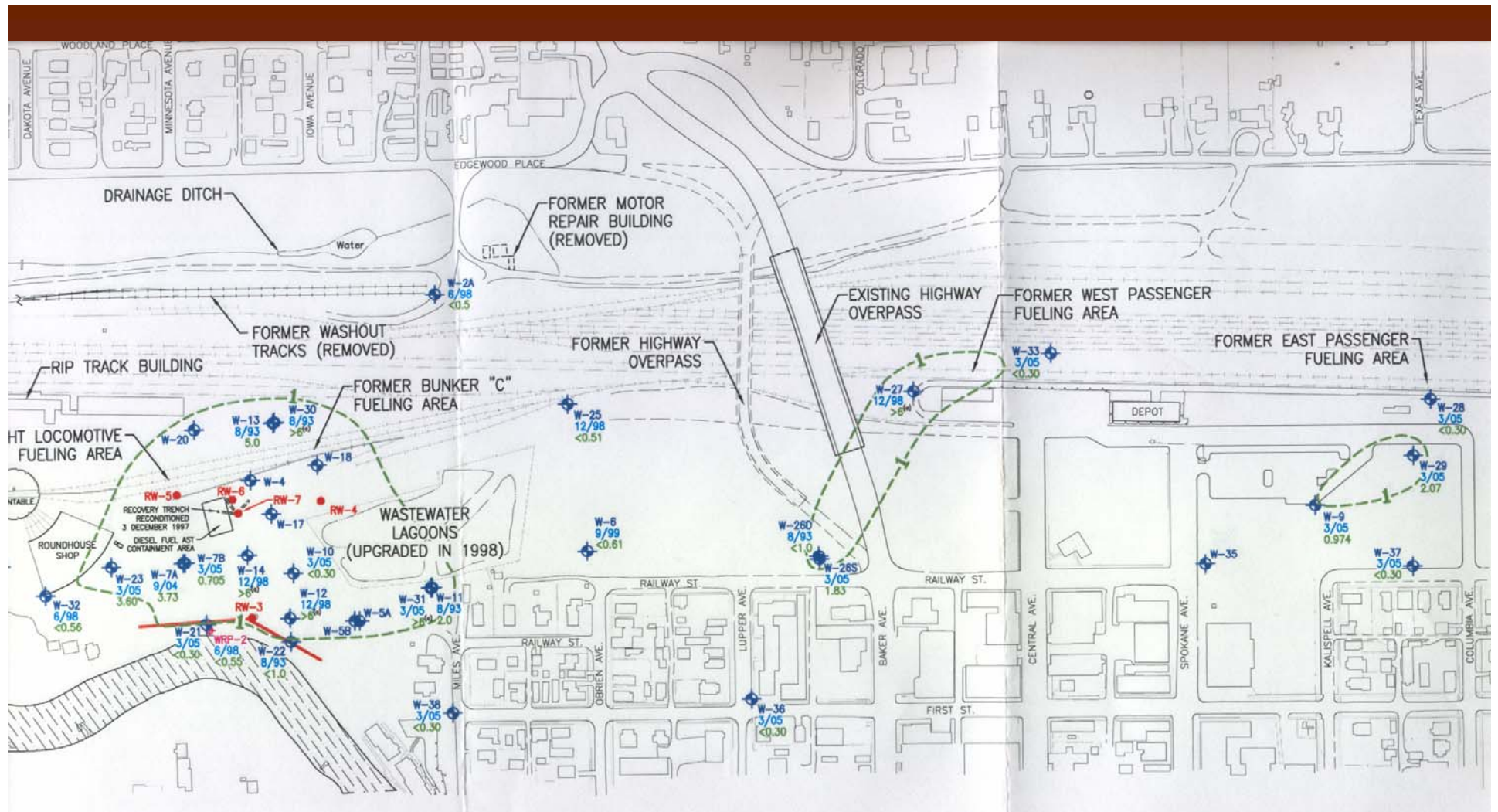
- 1992 – MDT conducted during overpass construction
- 1998 – Lagoon upgrades – excavated diesel contaminated soil under lagoons
- 2005 – Metals contaminated surface soil removed



# Soils

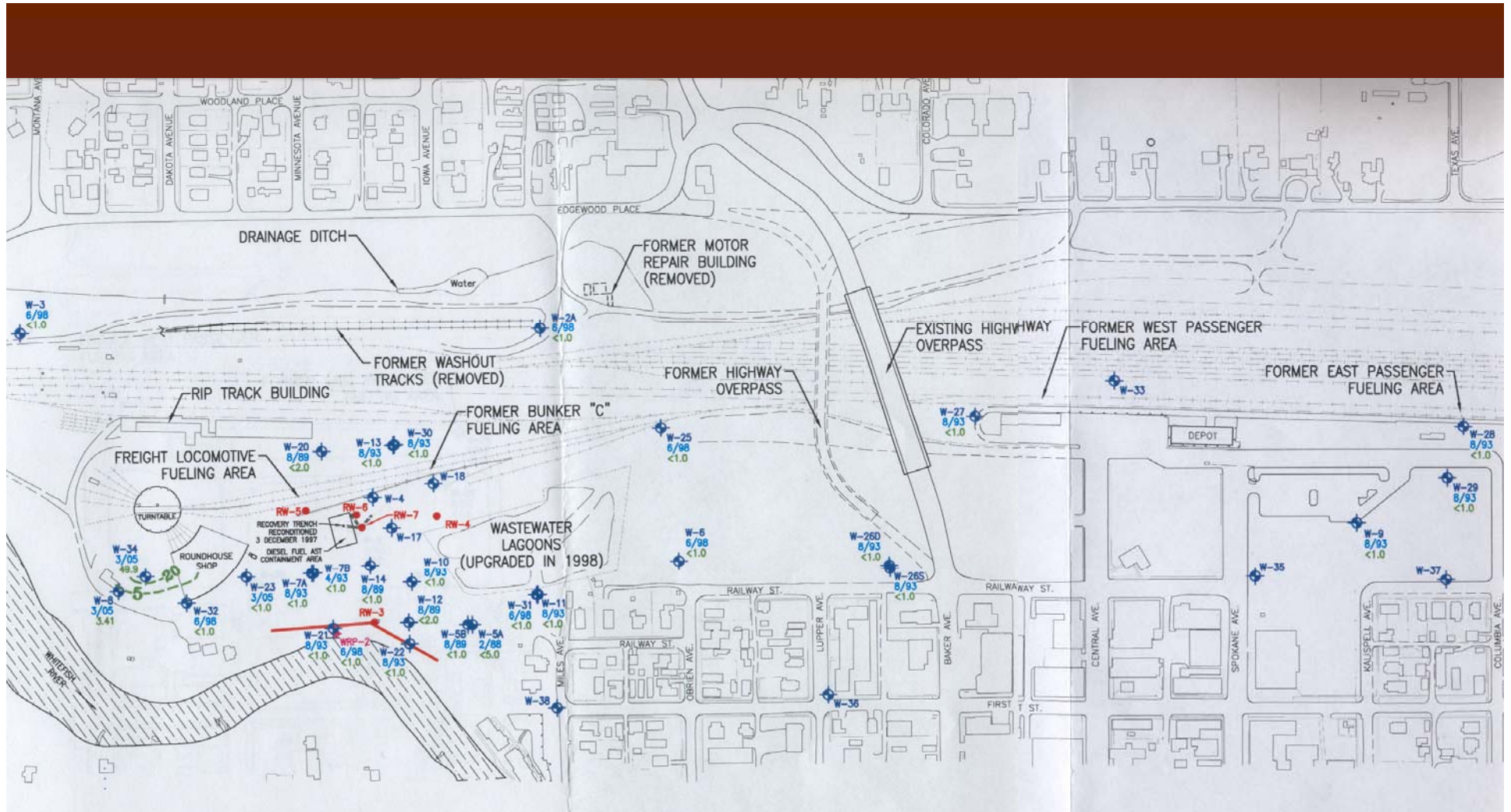
# Groundwater Assessment

- Groundwater not used for domestic purposes (city water used)
- Diesel contamination
  - Freight Locomotive Fueling Area
  - West Passenger Fueling Area
  - East Passenger Fueling Area
- Free product - Diesel
  - Freight Locomotive Fueling Area
- Volatile organic compounds – trichloroethene (TCE)
  - Roundhouse



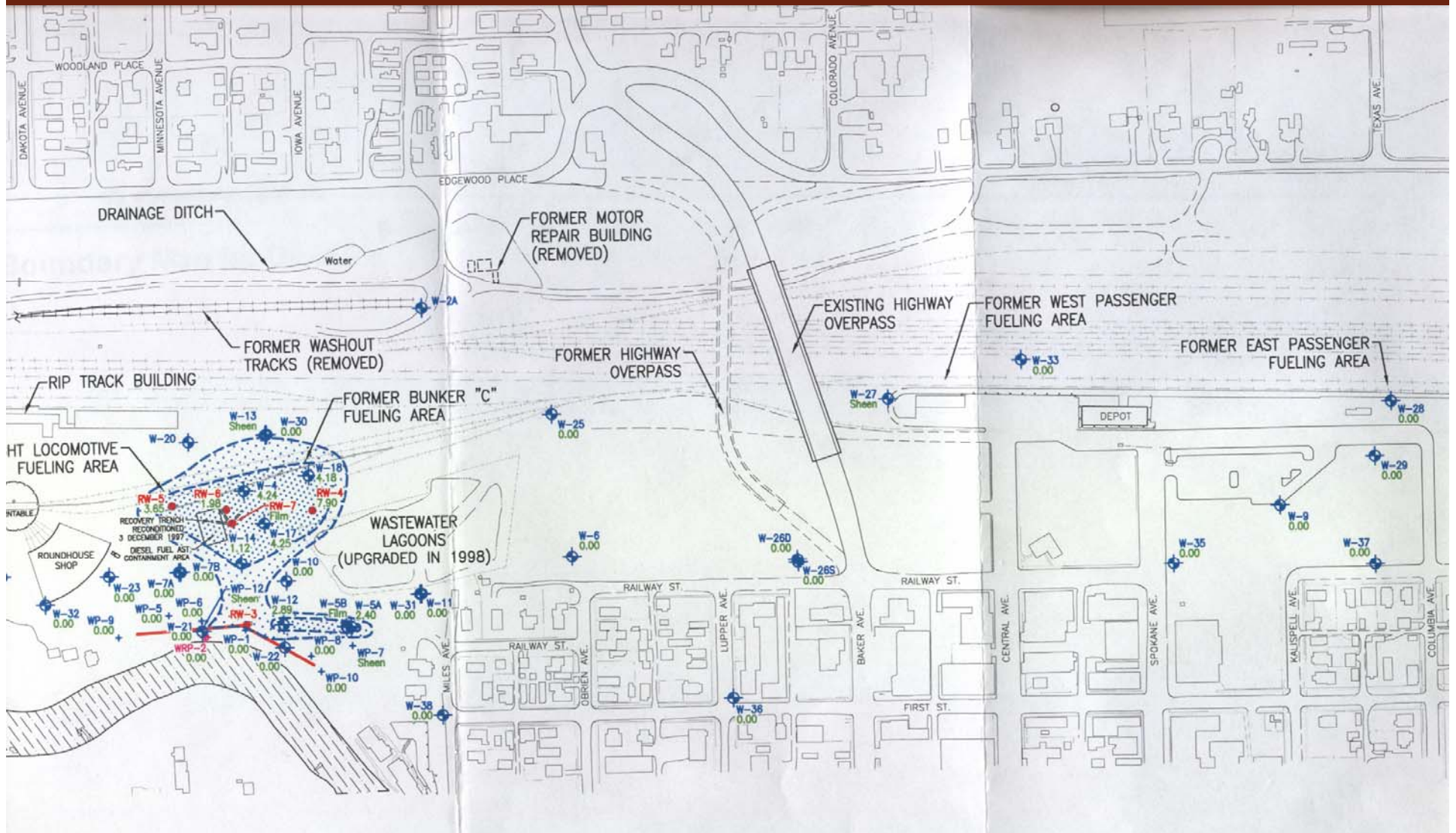
## Dissolved Diesel in Groundwater





## Dissolved Trichloroethene (TCE)

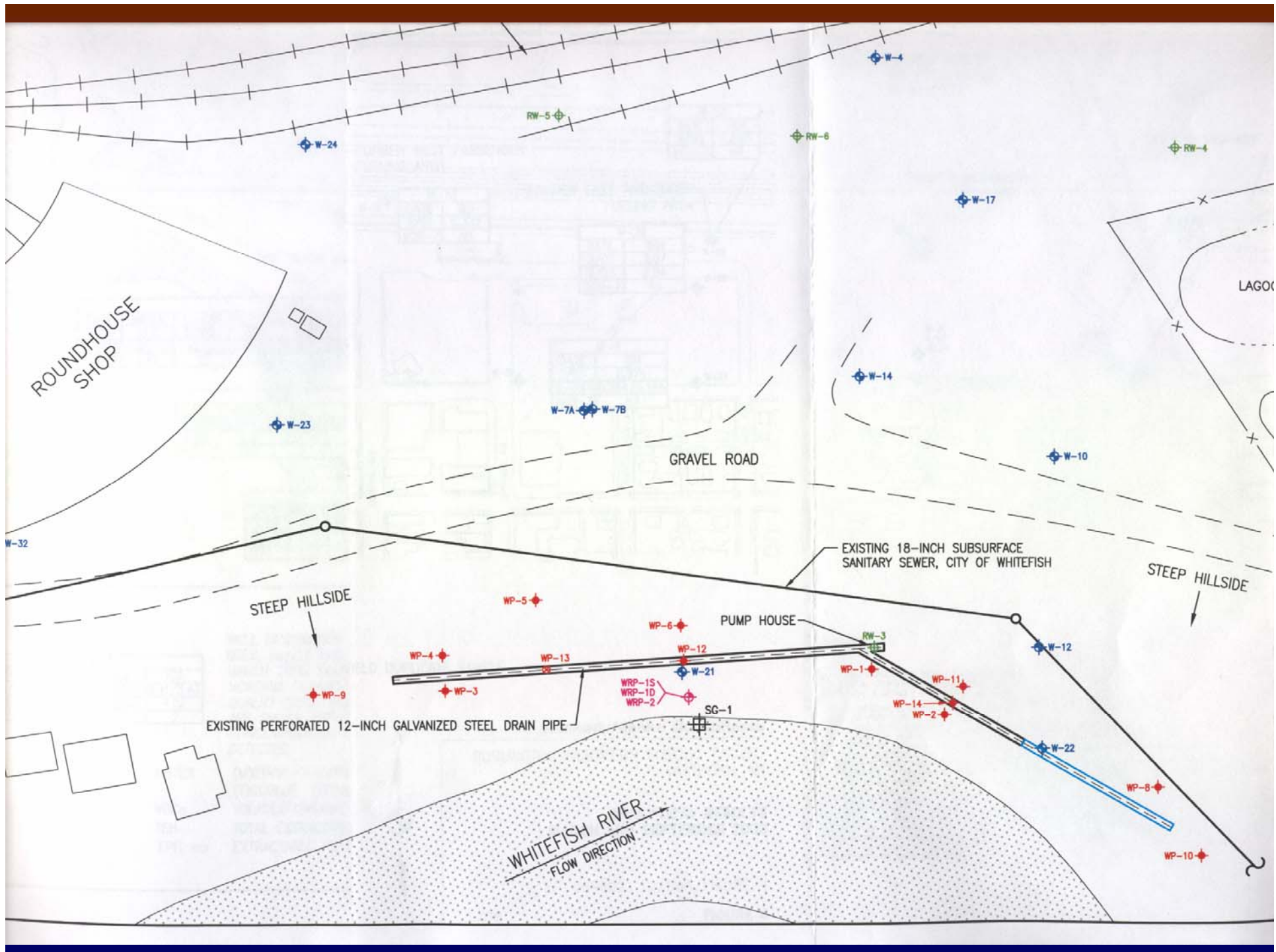




Free Product (Diesel)

# Interim Groundwater Cleanup

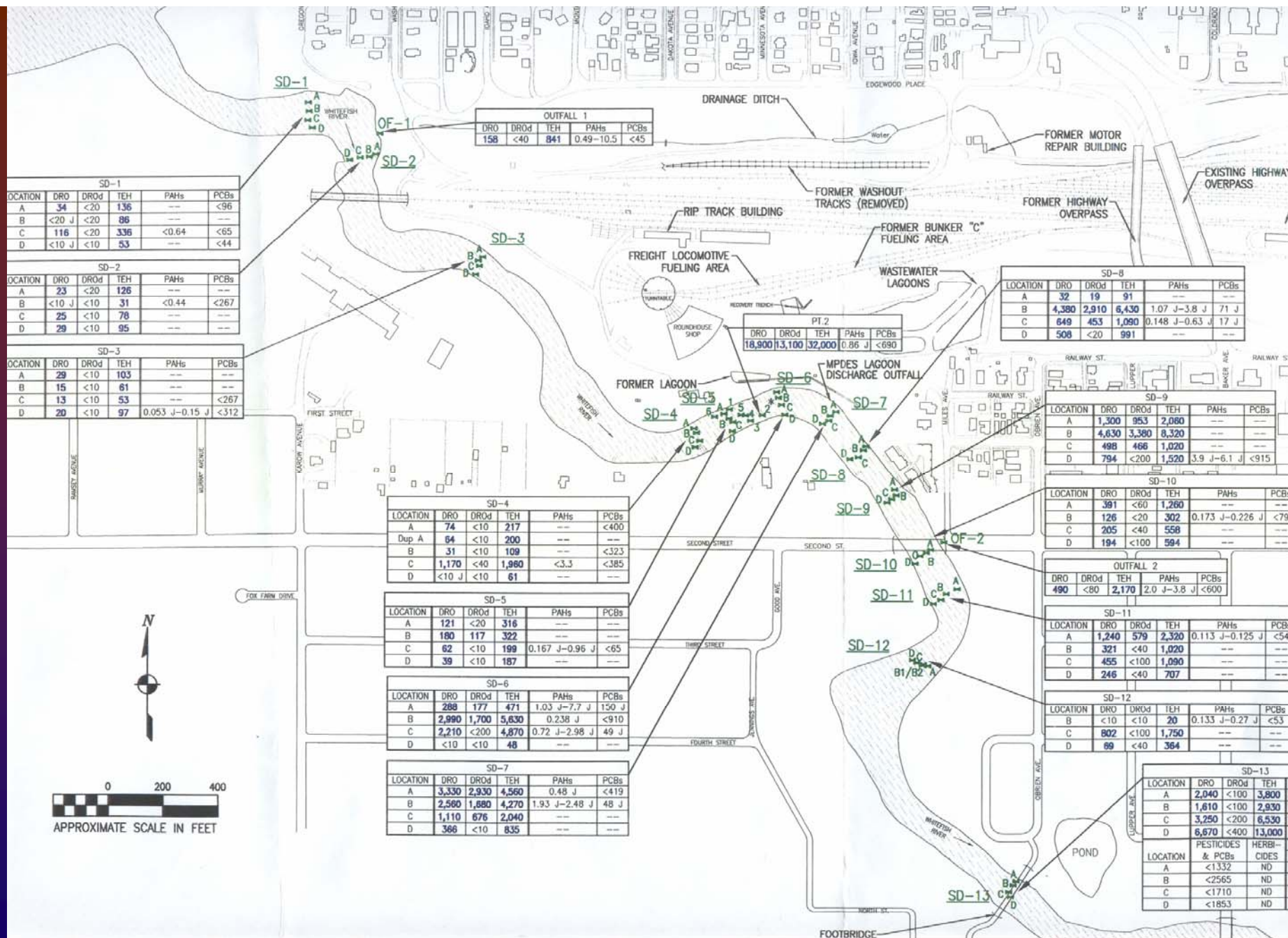
- Dissolved groundwater contaminant concentrations reduced through natural attenuation processes
- Diesel product floats on top of groundwater – over 8 feet thick
- Interceptor trench prevents product from reaching the river
- Well RW-3 pumps product out of interceptor trench
- Well RW-7 pumps product from small trench in center of product plume
- Total recovered (approximate) since 1991 is 14,539 gallons.



# River Sediment Investigations

- River investigated for diesel, VOCs, PAHs, herbicides, PCBs, pesticides, and metals
- Main contaminant of concern: diesel
- Concentrations decrease downriver
- Interceptor trench installed in 1973; extended in 1997; prevents additional contamination from reaching the river



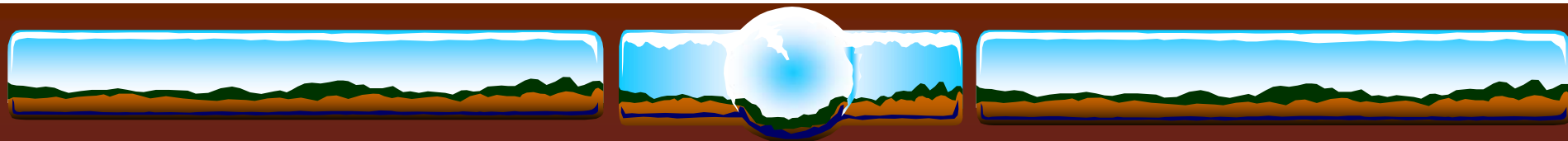


# River Sediment



# What is next?

- Upland (Railyard Area)
  - Expanded Product Recovery Work
  - Finalize Remedial Investigation Report
  - Begin Risk Assessment
  - Conduct additional investigations as necessary
- River
  - Comment on and finalize Supplemental RI and Ecological Risk Assessment for River
  - Feasibility study



## *Contact Information*

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